

FOCUS

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 12 Published by the Jamaican-Canadian Association

MAY 1988

SEVEN NEW MEMBER AGENCIES NAMED

By Morais Wallen

"THE UNITED WAY OF GREATER TORONTO HAS ADMITTED SEVEN NEW MEMBER AGENCIES AND THE ALLOCATION OF THIRTYTWO ONE YEAR GRANTS", SAID FRED BECK, CHAIRMAN - UNITED WAY DEVELOPMENTAL FUNDING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HELD AT THE HEAD OFFICE OF THE JAMAICAN-CANADIAN ASSOCIATION.

The occasion was the formal reception of the JCA along with six other agencies as member agencies of that organization. As a funding organization, it has recognized the JCA as an agency serving the the needs of the Jamaican community in Metro Toronto.

Throughout its years of service JCA has maintained a consistent commitment to community service. It has demonstrated that the multi-ethnic, multi-racial and multi-cultural composition of our community and the importance of agencies like itself cannot be taken for granted. Through its social services it has increased the awareness of the Canadian community on several crucial issues directly related to total development of our community. It is recognized for its consistent and accurate representation of issues affecting the community as a whole. Responding to the challenge to continue the good work, Mr. Roy Williams, president of the JCA confirmed our firm commitment to service and our appreciation for the recognition. He also maintained that "dynamics of recognition



FRED BECK announced the admittance of 7 new member agencies at a Press Conference held at the JCA Head Office. Seated from L-R are: Roy Williams, Fatima Filippi, Ann Golden, Paul Kafele and Jane Moore.

must be consistent with degree of solidarity with other agencies in addressing the problems that are faced by the minority community".

Contents

President's Desk.....	2
Editorial.....	2
Members Corner.....	3
Upcoming Events.....	6
Members Profile.....	6
Air Jamaica Update....	8

airJamaica

WE GIVE YOU MORE

1-800-523-5585

BOB MARLEY REMEMBERED

By Morais Wallen

Seven years ago on May 11, Jamaica, and indeed the world lost a prophet, philosopher, musician and brother in the person of Bob Marley. His career as a singer and writer spanned 20 years, from 1961 to 1981. During this time he distinguished himself as a spokesperson for the poor and oppressed in an way that is only matched by Marcus Garvey.

His message transcended the contradictions implied in the attitudes of Rasta men of his type. The images of burning logwood, of drawing bad cards, rock as his pillow, cornmeal porridge and the hopes for the future were expressed with such humility that his message became the message of the poor and oppressed to the powers that be. As early as 1974 when the idea of a "democratic socialist" society was introduced Bob Marley told the working class people "never trust a politician...he will always want to control you". Out of this situation he called for a revolution. When the innocent blood was being shed, he warned that someone will have to pay. In all of this, Marley was dissatisfied with the political state of the country to the point where he "wore a permanent screw".

The crisis of imperialism dictates a certain urgency to the music of Marley. Despite the clarity and power of reggae the thrust of cultural resistance has not affected the basic institutions of the Jamaican society. The music of Marley must be linked to an ideology of change. One which recognises the need for political and social liberation that will create the society where true humanity is at least shadowed.

The hostility to anything or person that is oppressive is a manifestation of the resistance to the cultural and ideological assault which are faced at the centre of the Babylonian system. The cultural resistance from the hills of Jamaica and the symbol of defiance become his form of resistance as he attempts through his lyrics to create a more meaningful living environment for his fellow Jamaicans.

The spirit of Marley lives on in the voices of oppressed crying for liberation. This cry can be heard all the way from the township of Southern Africa to the valleys of Trench Town Jamaica. The message of Marley remains an inspiration. The challenge of equal right and justice is as relevant today as it was when they rang out at the peace concert. Let us accept the challenge to "get up and stand up for our rights" as we remember the death of a true prophet.

In-Focus is published by:
Jamaican Canadian Association
1621 Dupont Street
Toronto, Ontario M6P 3S8
Telephone: 535-4476
Editorial Morais Wallen
Typesetting and Layout: Christine Moodie and Grace Baugh



Roy Williams

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

JCA in United Way.

On April 26, 1988, with appropriate ceremony, the Jamaican-Canadian Association was admitted into the United Way family as a member agency. After approximately four years of United Way Developmental funding we now have obtained member status. We share this new status with the Black Secretariat, the Rexdale Women's Centre and four other groups that were admitted this year. This is the first time that two entities from the Black/Caribbean Communities have been admitted and brings to a total of three such groups within the United Way Family (Tropicana Community Services was admitted some years ago). This membership further emphasizes the direction in which the JCA has been moving in providing social services to this very needy community. We will concentrate primarily on the young and on the elderly. We do not have the resources at the present time to deal with the middle of the spectrum. We will still continue to address the needs of immigrants during their adjustment period and we will continue to advocate on behalf of the disadvantaged. We will need many volunteers to help us to deliver on this mandate, as the United Way is a volunteer organization.

WALK-A-THON - A SUCCESS.

I unfortunately was out of town on the first of May and for the first time missed the Walk-a-thon. I understood though that you could not have had a nicer day (I arranged that before I left.) I understand also that there was a very enthusiastic group of walkers and that the effort should produce substantial returns for the Building Fund. I understand that Bromley Armstrong, Austin Davey and Wilfred Greenwood were first place winners. Bromley will therefore have to train harder to fend off these new challengers. I thank the Consul General Mrs. Kay Baxter for officiating and actually Walking (and finishing). In a year or two she will have attained the same level of athletic prowess as her predecessor Ossie Murray. Talking about first place finishing the grapevine tells me that as far as pledges go Jean Gammage has a long lead over all challengers. Please accept my deepest gratitude to all who walked, pledged, helped with the planning and the organizing and prez's...continued on page 3

Prez's...continued from page 2

who worked both in front and behind the scenes. Thanks to Bromley, Hector and all other helpers. We most sincere thank you to Hugh Daley who donated the printing.

Our Executive Director Moves On.

One of the key builders of the Jamaican-Canadian Association is Karl Fuller. He has served this Association in many different capacities over the years. His most significant role, however, has been as Executive Director of the JCA - the first and only Executive Director we have had. He carved out the mandate and defined the limits of the job. He did more than was required. He was Co-ordinator, Building Manager, General Manager, Policy Adviser, Project Manager, Peace Maker and a host of other things. He, more than any other one individual, is responsible for bringing the JCA to its present high profile and good standing. I could rely on him completely. He made my job so much easier. I didn't have to worry about too many things because I knew Karl would handle them. We knew he would have to move on some day, but we hoped that day would be delayed. However, he moves on to another organization with which he has strong ties. We know he will do so much for that organization as he has done for the JCA. We wish him well as he moves on. We thank him for his contribution and our consolation is that we know he will always be a dedicated JCA person and will continue to serve in some other capacity.

CARAVAN

Caravan time is here again. June 17-25. We will be participating along with many other cultural groups in the Annual Metro International Caravan. This is usually a fun time. It will be a festival of good food, good music, good entertainment, Red Stripe Beer, Run Punch, good friends and good fellowship. Passports are now available for \$8.00 until early June when they will cost \$10.00 each. Please pick yours up at the Centre - NOW. Get one for each of your friends as well. Call Daphne Bailey who is co-ordinating passport sales. A lot of work is involved in this effort. We need a lot of volunteers to make it succeed so please phone Sheila Raymond to indicate when, and in what role and how often you can be relied upon to assist in this very important task.

New Look for In-Focus

We have been gradually trying to bring the process of the JCA into the 20th century by learning and taking advantage of new technology. This has not been easy. We are trying to produce our newsletter ourselves by using our computer and finding appropriate Desktop Publishing Software to accomplish it. There are no resident experts on staff to assist us with this. We are fortunate however, to have some curious minds, willing learners and dedicated personnel who are committed to making it happen. These persons are Grace Baugh, Morais Wallen and Christine Moodie. They each have put countless hours into this experiment. They are still learning. The first issue may not be perfect but they will continue working at it until it becomes perfect. I thank them sincerely for the effort. It means so much to the Association.

COMING EVENTS

High Commissioner to Speak at Quarterly Meeting.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the JCA will be on Sunday, May 29, 1988, starting at 1:00 p.m. Please be there promptly. We will have the business conducted between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. His Excellency H. Dale Anderson, Prez's continued on Page 7

MEMBERS CORNER



Veronica Hislop -
Chairperson
General Purpose
Committee

Veronica joined JCA 1 year ago and has been an active member of the membership committee. She brings to the Board knowledge of social welfare issues and Community service, please give her your support. She needs, committed volunteers to join her committee. Please call J.C.A. 535-4476.

Our apologies to Veronica for omitting her photo from the list of Board Members in the last issue of IN-FOCUS.

CONCERN CORNER

GET WELL WISHES TO: Carmen Jens, Alex Russel, Denise Jones, Hycinth Wilson

BIRTHDAYS: MAY Natalie Wilson and Hycinth Wilson
JUNE Radcliffe Johnson
JULY Bernice Bailey and Carmen Jens

! HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL !

Congratulations Joan and Everton Cummings
Who celebrate their first wedding anniversary in July

REMINDER !!

1988 membership fees are now due

\$20.00 Individual
\$30.00 Family (parents + dependant).
Please submit cheque or money order
payable to:

JCA 1621 Dupont St., Toronto, Ont.,
M6P 3S8

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR PAL PROGRAM

By Morais Wallen

On May 6, the CYFS held an Open House to reintroduce its Pal Program. It was attended by parents, volunteers, Social Service Agencies and JCA staff members.

In outlining the revised plans for the Program, Yasmine Aarons stated that it is necessary to recognise the part played by both the volunteers and the parents. She challenged the volunteers to "make sure that their motive are clear and intentional" and the parents to "avoid unreasonable expectations".

The purpose of this program is to share in the life of the young Pals in such a way that he/she would not have been fortunate to have share otherwise. Service to the Caribbean community is one of our fundamental objectives. The volunteers, majority of whom are from UJAAMA young people's group renewed their to the program. This group has been very instrumental in proving volunteers to the program since its inception, Rich Boyne for Delcrest also promised continued support.

The parents in attendance were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the volunteer to provide role models and support to their children. "The pal program has made a difference in... life, I have noticed changes in his attitude especially with his school work" were the sentiments of one of our parents. She challenged us to keep the program going because it has the potential to help Black children.

We currently have 6-7 active volunteers with Pals who have renewed their support. We hope that before the end of the summer we will have 15-20 volunteers with Pals.

For further information contact Morais Wallen at 535-4476 or Yasmine Aarons at 740-1558.

JCA SENIORS GROUP

Did you know that there was a seniors group for all seniors in the caribbean community?

This group meets every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. on the second floor at the Jamaican Canadian Center.

The main aim of the this group is to to get our seniors into an environment where they can socialize, participate in group discussions, crafts, tours, etc.

For more information call 535-4476.

CITIZENSHIP & CULTURE
VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Receipients of the citizenship and culture volunteer awards held recently. Standing L-R; Pam powell, Roy Stewart, Juanita Thompson, Gladston Hylton, Karl Fuller.

The JCA Board, staff & members extend their sincere congratulations to the 6 - JCA volunteers who recently recieved the citizenship & culture Volunteer Awards.

We thank these deserving volunteers for their dedication and consistent involvement in JCA, and look forward to their continued support, & commitment.

Karl R. Fuller	15 yrs.
Gladstone Hylton	15 yrs.
Lloyd W. Perry	15 yrs.
Pamela Powell	15 yrs.
Roy B. A. Stewart	15 yrs.
Juanita Thompson	10 yrs.

REXDALE WOMEN'S CENTRE

Free orientation and information groups for immigrant women, offer by the Rexdale Women's Centre. There is one for Italian women, one for Spanish, one for West Indian, one for South Asian and two Multi-Ethnic groups. Free child care provided. For information on time and location, women are welcome to call the Centre at 745-0062.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY
OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO

needs Black Volunteers
to asist children and
families.

If you can spare a few
hours a week to be a
friend. PLEASE CALL...

924-4646

Volunteer Department

IMPORTANT

THE JAMAICAN - CANADIAN
ASSOCIATION
WILL HOLD ITS
QUARTERLY MEETING
AT THE JCA CENTRE
1621 DUPONT STREET
ON SUNDAY MAY 29, 1988
AT 1:00 PM
ALL ARE INVITED TO
SHARE ON
THIS OCCASSION. OUR
GUEST WILL BE HIS
EXCELLENCY H. DALE
ANDERSON
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CALL
535-4476



JCA Reactivates Women Committee

by Eva Smith and Joan Grant-Cummings

On Saturday, April 30, 1988, the JCA Women's Committee (formerly JCA's Women's Auxiliary Group) was officially reactivated. This took the form of a wine and cheese reception. Special invited guest, Dr. Mavis Burke could not attend due to illness.

The Committee's objectives are as follows:

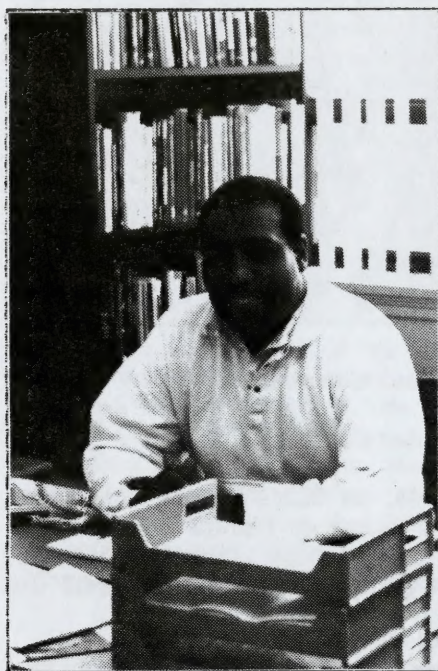
- To provide a forum to address women's issues and be a support and resource group.
- To initiate special projects to provide an avenue for networking with women of all ages.
- To assist in fundraising endeavours of the JCA.

Dr. Burke in her congratulatory letter to the committee, highlighted and identified many of the roles and activities that the Women's Committee will have the opportunity to be involved with and contribute to. She mentioned for example the "need to provide a resource to identify the problems being experienced by our women and to facilitate solutions to specific situations". She emphasized the fact that "many reports highlighted the stress of working conditions, of the break up of the family, violence in the home and related problems." These should be some of the issues that are to be addressed by this Women's Committee.

The group plans to put on workshops aimed at reaching women of all walks of life, especially those in crisis situations and women who for some reason are not able to access information about Family Law, Family Services, Spouse Assault, the Education System, etc.

The group plans to also participate in fundraising activities. Their first venture is a Bus Trip to Buffalo on Saturday, May 28. The proceeds will be donated to the Eva Smith Bursary. The Bus leaves the St. Clair West subway area (Loblaws Parking Lot) at 9:30 p.m. and returns to Toronto by 7:30 p.m. Cost per person is \$30.00. For more information call Eva Smith and Joan Grant-Cummings at 535-4476.

**LEDE: PROFILE ON GEORGE MARTIN MANAGER OF
THE JCA'S CARIBBEAN YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES (formerly CYP)**



By Joan Grant-Cummings

George Martin originally from Antigua, is a new additions to the JCA's Caribbean Youth and Family Services' office. George is our resident Social Worker and holds a Masters in Social Work. He is no stranger to the JCA in the sense that he has been aware of the community work that we have been doing and admired us from afar.

George recalls his mother and his grandmother as two people who helped to shape him into what he is today. His grandmother especially, taught him about his history and the contributions of Blacks to world civilization.

His social consciousness was further stimulated by the inequalities he saw in the various governments of the Caribbean.

The satirical lyrics of Sparrow's songs and other Caribbean performers served to strenghtehen his opinion that all was not well and that not every man was given a fair chance to achieve. He was always, deeply concerned about the Caribbean family, especially in the role that the Caribbean fathers play in their children's lives. At an early

age he played father and brother to his younger brother by attending PTA meetings and advocating on his behalf in the school setting. George was determined that should he become a father one day, he would be involved at all levels with his children's development.

Mr. Martin did not set out to be a Social Worker when he started his post-secondary education. In fact, he was headed for the world of business. However, he became increasingly dissatisfied with this particular discipline when he realized more and more that it favoured one select group of people over another in terms of the ability to serve financially, and hence socio-economically. The time spent in business was not totally wasted however. Having the knowledge of the other side of the coin helped him to see things on more even keel, i.e. not from a totally sociological viewpoint. It was his preoccupation with the present social condition of humanity that led him to pursue his present line of work as a Social Worker.

One of George's interests is also sports. As a young man in Antigua he represented not only his school, but his Island in different championships. He is an avid cricketer, volleyball and soccer player. He uses sports in his work to forge closer links with the youth. George may not be a participant in North American sports such as football but he is certainly a fan and a spectator. His ability to mix so complex a field with active sports must be the key to his calm, unruffled and composed disposition.

We are proud to have George Martin on our staff, and we have already began to benefit from his expertise and advice.

George Martin, committed Social Worker and ardent sports fan.

6 In-Focus May 1988

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY-DECEMBER 1988

June 17-25 - CARAVAN
July 16 - JCA Seniors' Bazaar
July 17 - JCA Annual Picnic
July 23-24 - Montreal Bus Trip
July 30 - Dance
August 6 - Independence Dinner
August 27 - Seniors' Picnic
September 24 - Seniors' Dinner
October 1 - Eva Smith Bursary Dinner
October 9 - JCA Brunch
October 15 - Credit Union Dinner & Dance
November 5 - Outstanding Achievement Award (Marcus Garvey Awards)
December 16 - Christmas Party
December 18 - Children's Christmas Party
December 31 - New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance

N.B. Some of these dates and events are tentative.

Please look out for changes in upcoming issues.

JCA BINGO

**EVERY SATURDAY
NIGHT**

AT 9:30 PM

**2424 FINCH AVE
WEST**

**(FINCH BINGO
COUNTRY)**

**COME AND SUPPORT
US.**

CARAVAN 1988

by Joan Grant-Cummings

As Spring rolls out and Summer takes over, we celebrate Metro International Caravan. The JCA traditionally hosts the "Port Royal Pavilion". This year our theme will be "Journey to Liberation: Celebrating 150 years of Emancipation. This is the time of the year when any individual country gets a chance to show the rest of Metro and visitors to Metro its culture. Caravan is a lighthearted celebration of Toronto's multicultural nature through arts, crafts, food music, dance and folklore.

This year's entertainment package will feature music by such International reggae artists, Hon Bob Marley, O.D. and the Third World Band. The show will feature dance, music, poetry and folk songs, depicting the journey from slavery to Emancipation and where we are today.

Our disply includes Arts, Crafts, paintings, etc., which will also be on sale. Our Membership Committee will also be having a display, for those of us who want to stock up on our JCA souvenirs, this is the booth to visit. Displays will be on the second floor. As an added touch, videos will be shown on the second floor, featuring Jamaica, the land we love. The audio-visual displays are bing provided courtesy of the jamaican Tourist Board, the Jamaican High Commission and the Counsulatte.

This year Ms. Antia McGill and Mr. Everton Cummings have both "Volunteered" to be our pavilion's official host and hostess, as princess and Mayor, respectively. We need volunteers to help maintain our booth, bar area, display area, food department and general set-up. To volunteer please contact Joan Grant-Cummings or Sheila A. Raymond at (535-4476) Caravan takes place from Friday, June 17 to Saturday, June 25. The pavilion opens from 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and 3:00p.m. on weekends (Saturday & Sunday).

**SPEED FREIGHT
Forwarding Co.
(416) 243-2224**

**Regular shipping services to
The Caribbean, Guyana, U.S.A.
U.K. & Europe**

**Ottawa # (613) 727-1043
CRAFTING, PICK-UP AND
DELIVERY**

SERVICES AVAILABLE

**FOR FREE ESTIMATE Speed Freight
Forwarding Co.
243-2224**

**70 Belfield, unit 18,
Rexdale, Ont. M9W 1G3**

**CARRIBBEAN IMMIGRANT
SERVICES**

**DESIGNED TO PROVIDE
INFORMATION, ORIENTATION AND
SETTLEMENT SERVICES FOR
IMMIGRANTS WITH LANDED
STATUS OR A MINISTER'S
PERMIT.**

**FOR INFORMATION
CONTACT: 535-4476**

**JAMAICAN-CANADIAN
ASSOCIATION**

GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

By Veronica Hislop

The General Puopose Committee is a vital part of this organization. It serves the purpose of supporting the JCA staff in its delivery of services to the community. We are currently working on developing programmes for seniors in the West indian community. We have also made a commitment to the food bank of Metro Toronto. In this context, we intend to assist in the delivery of food to the needy in our community. Future plans include planning youth programmes to cater to the needs of our young people.

We need your assistance in these areas. If you are interested please call 535-4476.

Prez's continued from Page 3.
the High Commissioner for Jamaica will be in attendance and will be officially welcome to the JCA. He will speak to the group following which there will be an informal reception. Please come out in large numbers to greet the High Commissioner.

JCA Annual Picnic

Start to plan now for the JCA Annual Picnic which takes place on July 17, 1988. This years picnic promises to be one of the best ever. Get your group together and reserve your space early because we will have a limited number of buses. Seats will be allocated on a first come-first-served basis. Don't get left behind.

AIR JAMAICA - AIR CANADA PLAN INTEGRATED SERVICE

By Robert Tanner

Air Jamaica and Air Canada have reached an agreement which will enable passengers flying the popular Canada-Jamaica route to enjoy the benefits of cooperative integrated schedules and fares.

The new agreement, which is effective July 1, 1988, will allow more non-stop flights from Toronto to Montego Bay and Kingston. At present both airlines service the two destinations similarly.

As a result, Air Jamaica and Air Canada will modify their schedules effective July 1988. Air Canada will operate Toronto-Kingston on Mondays and Toronto-Montego Bay on Thursdays while Air Jamaica will operate Toronto-Montego Bay on Mondays and Toronto-Kingston on Thursdays. The balance of the schedule will remain unchanged with both Air Jamaica and Air Canada operating a Toronto-Montego Bay-Kingston-Toronto flight on Saturdays and Sundays.

The new agreement, which is effective July 1, 1988, will primarily allow Air Jamaica and Air Canada to integrate flight schedules resulting in more

Toronto-Kingston non-stop flights and Toronto-Montego Bay non-stop flights.

LOWER FARES TO THE SUN

Air Jamaica has announced new fares effective for the periods April 8 to June 30 and September 5 to December 11, 1988. It is now possible to fly Toronto-Jamaica for as little as \$349 return.

Weekday departures during the shoulder seasons of April 8 to June and September 5 to December 11, Monday through Friday, will be the economical fare of \$349 with either Montego Bay or Kingston as the destination. On Saturday or Sunday the fare will be 369. Children under the age of 12 may travel, on any day of the week, for \$229.

Lovebird first class round trip fares April 15 to June 30 and September 9 to December 14 will be \$499 on weekdays and \$529 on weekends for either a Montego Bay or Kingston destination.

For the month of April Air Jamaica will operate six flights per week and for May and June southbound flights will operate Friday to Tuesday and

northbound, Thursday to Monday.

During the summer months fares will be \$499 weekdays and \$529 on Saturday and Sunday. These fares are effective from July 1 to September 4. Children under 12 years of age will be able to travel for \$229 any day.

From July 1 to September 8 Lovebird first class will be \$599 on weekdays and \$629 on Saturday and Sunday.

"The new fares are all part of Air Jamaica Supplying good value to its passengers," said George deMercado, Air Jamaica's manager, Canada. "Jamaica is very appealing in the spring and the new fares will hopefully encourage people to visit the island utilizing the attractive fares."

The new pricing is subject to the following conditions. Tickets must be purchased 14 days in advance and passengers are restricted to minimum stay of seven days and a maximum stay of 14 days. First class fares are valid for 21 days. All travel must be completed on the last day that the fare is valid. All the new fares will be blacked out July 16-31 when fares of \$594, weekdays and \$670, weekends will be in effect. Children will

The Jamaican-Canadian Association
1621 Dupont Street
Toronto, Ontario
M6P 3S8
Telephone 535-4476